

July 6, 2011

Bless you for praying!

The Kamano Acts video recording was finished in March and sent in for final review. Please continue to pray that those in authority will quickly come to agreement on a new contract that will allow us to produce this video and get it out to our people. We especially want to be able to promote and sell it at Kamano Christmas Camp.

June 8th our team members graduated from the last of four Translators' Training Courses (TTC). It was rewarding to watch the guys apply the poetry lessons while translating the first chapters of Proverbs. We were in Proverbs 4 by the end of the course, before the Genesis recording started (June 16).

We are now 30% into recording 50 chapters of the Kamano-Kafe Genesis video, and are averaging between 300 and 550 seconds of recorded text each day. **We praise God that even though a REALLY bad flu and cold has been sweeping through the villages, affecting close to nine out of ten Kamano speakers, God has allowed some of the people to remain healthy so that we could continue recording. Pray especially for good health and stamina for James and Kossack, who are in the studio all day long working with our recording specialist.** Their dedication and experience on "The HOPE" and the "Acts" videos has allowed us to come and go from the studio and be able to coordinate other projects like the following.

Another Eastern Highlands language group, Agarabi, dedicated their New Testament on Christa's 14th birthday, May 22. It took 52 years to complete because of Wycliffe translation teams leaving with health issues, and the last translation family could not stay longer in PNG due to the wife's health. So the NT awareness and distribution of the 1,900 remaining printed New Testaments for this 28,000 person language group has fallen to Joyce and me, Rich, as the regional directors. With 74 villages and an extremely low literacy rate, we think our greatest gain will come from recording the New Testament books, and then transferring the recordings onto audio players to sell along with the New Testaments. **Pray for us as we coordinate and train different volunteers and short-term teams to work on recording Agarabi speakers, and also arrange NT awareness activities in the villages. Pray also for travel safety out in the villages and that God would show us His ways to introduce this New Testament to this people group who saw their first outsiders in the early 1930s and started NT translation in 1959.**

Thank you to those who prayed and gave funds to replace our worn-out water pump. Our new one was installed in May and is working great! PTL! The story of getting a new pump in-country (the right size) is either a miracle or a "swiping"... we are not sure which, but one's cultural view probably determines which. When I asked the Ukarumpa Construction Dept. national employee who does purchasing how he found a pump he said, "You just have to know whom to ask. When I called the plumbing store you went to in Lae [in April], I asked if they had any, and they told me someone else had already ordered the last one in stock. It was waiting to be shipped to someone else. I told the worker in the store, 'I have to have it! You must sell it to me!', and he did." Hearing this, I was kind of sorry I had asked. Sending it back to the port city would have created a huge mess along with relationship issues, so I gratefully thanked our employee and walked away praying that whoever had ordered it first would quickly get a replacement.

PRAISE: several of our partners have recently donated extra funds for our July "trial" consultant training program for nationals who will be trained to consultant check their own language Scripture portions. The total training funds donated so far (after assessments) amount to \$1475, which means we still need about \$730 more to cover the upcoming Greek Course (August 17-September 27). We don't know the final cost of the Greek Course yet, as another course is running now, which may have some unused national training funds left over, which could lower our cost for the August/September Greek Course. **PTL with us that the funds for the trial Consultant Training Course are already in our PNG account, and about half of the needed funds for the Greek Course.**

Christa completed middle school Tuesday, June 21; she starts her first term of high school, 9th grade, on Wednesday, July 20. She has so many projects going on in her small bedroom that it takes awhile for her to get her bed cleared before she can go to bed at night. You should hear her practice her trumpet! Wow—she now has a beautiful vibrato tone quality on melodic pieces. She is looking forward to being in marching band first term.

Serving together with you,

Rich & Joyce Mattocks

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